

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 have been examined. The Examiner continues to reject claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of DE 19514718 to Eigenstetter ("Eigenstetter"). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2 and 3 contain allowable subject matter.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Eigenstetter. However, since claim 1 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant submits that the rejection of such claim is now moot.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

As set forth above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2 and 3 contain allowable subject matter. Since claim 1 and withdrawn claims 4-6 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant submits that the Application is now in condition for allowance.

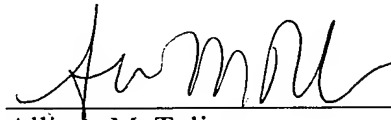
III. Conclusion

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 10/601,677

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 30, 2006 (since October 28, 2006 fell on a Saturday).